GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:123
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2003
HIKE IN TREATMENT FEES IN AIIMS
AKHILESH SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the treatment fees in AIIMS have been increased eight fold;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the likely impact thereof on common man;

(d) whether the AIIMS management enjoys the freedom to take decisions in matters of expansion, appointments, promotions, pay disparities, purchase, revision in treatment fees, etc.;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the action taken by the Government to nullify the steep hike in treatment fees with immediate effect?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)to(f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 123 FOR 26.2.2003

On 1.1.2003, the AIIMShave revised the charges for various Radio-diagnostic investigations in the AIIMS hospital and centers attached to it. The increase in fee has become necessary because the cost of consumables involved in those investigations have increased substantially in the last 10 years. While increasing the charges, efforts have been made to ensure that increases are kept at reasonable levels.

As per a standing Committee decision in the AIIMS, the AIIMS clinicians are authorized to identify the genuinely poor and needy for the purpose of granting exemption from the payment of various charges. Over and above, the patients below poverty line are provided assistance through the National Illness Assistance Fund (NIAF).The AIIMS also receives grants from Government agencies and voluntary and charitable organizations through which the poor patients are assisted.

The competent authority to take decisions in AIIMS in regard to appointment, promotion, service matter, purchase, revision in fees etc. is guided by the Act, Rules and Regulations of the Institutions as well as the instructions issued by the Central Government from time to time.

The hike in fee has been brought out only in very few diagnostic investigations. The rates have been increased by the AIIMS in accordance with the in principle decision of the Standing Finance Committee (SFC)/Governing Body (GB)/Institute Body(IB) of the Institute to rationalize the charges.